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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

25X1 REPORT NO.

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

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COUNTRY

East Germany

DATE DISTR.

31 May 1953

SUBJECT

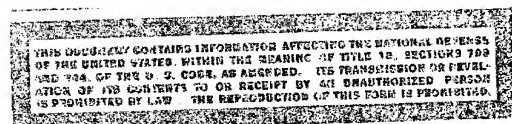
East German Procurement of Essential TV
and Radio Materials in West Germany

NO. OF PAGES

2

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NO. OF ENCLS
(LISTED BELOW)DATE OF
INFO.SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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1. Unless East Germany succeeds in obtaining as quickly as possible thorium, zirconium and similar materials by legal or illegal means, the total East German radio tube production and, therefore, the operation of all East German transmitters will be threatened. Difficulties in procuring such materials are the result of the international export ban imposed by the free western nations. For this reason the East German government, with the approval of the Soviet occupation forces, is attempting to procure thoriated tungsten wire by illegal means. It makes no difference what the dimensions of the wire are, since East German industry is in the position to reduce wire to the desired thickness. DIA-Metall has not been able to meet delivery dates for the needed metals and has stated that the USSR and other satellites cannot help East Germany with partial deliveries.
2. The East German Ministry for Post and Telecommunications has been plagued by shortages of vital raw materials since 1949. Attempts to procure such materials from the USSR have generally met with little success, as the Russians seem to take the attitude that even though the East Germans are continually complaining of raw material shortages, they still manage to deliver finished products. Thus, for example, Dr. (fnu) Richter of VLB Keramischewesen Hk, recently returned from the USSR, has maintained that there are extremely rich nickel deposits in Russia. Even though nickel is in short supply in East Germany, the Hk plant has never received a nickel shipment from the USSR.
3. This situation has forced the Ministry for Post and Telecommunications to attempt to procure vital materials from the West by illegal means since 1949. The liaison official for procuring material illegally for the MPF has always been National Prizewinner Heinz Andreas. Andreas has direct connections with members of the Central Committee of the SED who engage in illegal East-West trade. The names of Andreas's contacts in the Central Committee are not known.

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COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT NO.		25X1
SUBJECT	Werk fuer Fernmeldewesen HF (OSW) Production Difficulties	DATE DISTR.	31 July 1953	
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"Since mid-1952, the HF plant has been repeatedly requesting the Walzwerk fuer Buntmetalle Hettstedt (SAG) for urgently needed sheet copper that is both low in oxygen and free of protoxide, in various sizes. Prior to 10 April 1953, the Walzwerk was unable to furnish the required sheet copper of a quality that would meet the HF plant's standards, to be used as Anglasmaterial (sic) in the production of transmitter tubes.

"During the first quarter of 1953, the HF plant rejected and returned to Hettstedt the entire delivery because of the protoxide content.

"Although the Hettstedt plant is making every effort, material cannot be promised for delivery in less than three weeks' time, and even this delivery date cannot be met under any circumstances. The HF plant has no usable material left, nor is the material available anywhere else in East Germany.

"Unless we succeed in obtaining as soon as possible deliveries of protoxide-zinc-lead-free copper, we shall be forced to suspend, after reusing parts of rejected tubes, the production of large transmitter tubes RS-566, RS-558, and RS-255; 1 kw transmitter triode HF-2730; 3 kw UHF transmitter triode HF-2958; 3 kw transmitter triode HF-2825; and 10 kw UHF transmitter tube HF-2780.

"Suspension of our transmitter tube production will cause a critical situation in the radio broadcast transmitter installations. The need for the 40 kw transmitter tube is especially urgent, inasmuch as both the long wave transmitter

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at Koenigswusterhausen and the short wave transmitter at Leipzig have virtually no reserve supply. This means that if only one tube fails, the transmitter will unavoidably become inoperative.

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